Adam N. Saravay – 034921990 Katerina R. Mantell – 175162016 **McCARTER & ENGLISH, LLP** Four Gateway Center 100 Mulberry Street P.O. Box 652

Newark, NJ 07101-0652 Telephone: (973) 622-4444 Facsimile: (973) 624-7070

Attorneys for Defendant Solar Energy World, LLC

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

9	
DANIEL IMBESI,	Hon, U.S.D.J.
Plaintiff, v.	Civil Action No.:(/)
SOLAR ENERGY WORLD and JOHN DOES 1-10 (fictitious names), Defendants.	NOTICE OF COMPLIANCE WITH 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d)

To: William T. Walsh, Clerk of the Court
United States District Court for the District of New Jersey
Mitchell H. Cohen Building & U.S. Courthouse
4th & Cooper Streets Room 1050
Camden, New Jersey 08101

Regina M. Philipps, Esq. Timothy R. Bieg, Esq. Madden & Madden 108 Kings Highway East, Suite 200 Haddonfield, NJ 08033 Attorneys for Plaintiff

Pursuant to the requirements of 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d), on June 3, 2019, a Notice of

Removal, a true copy of which is attached hereto, has been sent to the Clerk of the

Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Camden County for filing.

Respectfully submitted,

McCARTER & ENGLISH, LLP Attorneys for Defendant Solar Energy World, LLC

By: <u>/s/Adam N. Saravay</u>
Adam N. Saravay
Katerina R. Mantell

Adam N. Saravay – 034921990 Katerina R. Mantell – 175162016 McCARTER & ENGLISH, LLP Four Gateway Center 100 Mulberry Street P.O. Box 652 Newark, NJ 07101-0652 (973) 622-4444 Attorneys for Defendant Solar World Energy, LLC

DANIEL IMBESI,

Plaintiff,

Civil Action

V.

DOCKET NO. CAM-L-1330-16

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY

CAMDEN COUNTY - LAW DIVISION

SOLAR ENERGY WORLD and JOHN DOES 1-10 (fictitious names),

Defendants.

NOTICE TO SUPERIOR COURT OF FILING A NOTICE OF REMOVAL

To: Clerk, Superior Court of New Jersey Camden County Superior Court Civil Case Management 101 S. 5th St. Camden, New Jersey 08103

SIR OR MADAM:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that attached hereto as Exhibit "A" is a copy of the Notice of Removal in the above-captioned action, which has been filed with the Clerk of the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey; and

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1332, 1441, and 1446, the filing of the Notice of Removal in the United States District Court, together with the filing of a copy of the Notice to the Superior Court of Filing a Notice of Removal with this

Case 1:19-cv-13366-RMB-JS Document 1-1 Filed 06/03/19 Page 4 of 31 PageID: 28

Court, effects the removal of the above-captioned action, and this Court may proceed no further unless and until the case is remanded.

McCARTER & ENGLISH, LLP Attorneys for Defendant Solar Energy World, LLC

By: /s/Adam N. Saravay
Adam N. Saravay
A Member of the Firm

Exhibit A

Adam N. Saravay – 034921990 Katerina R. Mantell – 175162016 **McCARTER & ENGLISH, LLP** Four Gateway Center 100 Mulberry Street P.O. Box 652

Newark, NJ 07101-0652 Telephone: (973) 622-4444 Facsimile: (973) 624-7070

Attorneys for Defendant Solar Energy World, LLC

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

DANIEL IMBESI,	Hon, U.S.D.J.
Plaintiff, v₊	Civil Action No.:(/)
SOLAR ENERGY WORLD and JOHN DOES 1-10 (fictitious names), Defendants.	NOTICE OF REMOVAL OF CASE FROM THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY LAW DIVISION, CAMDEN COUNTY

To: William T. Walsh, Clerk of the Court
United States District Court for the District of New Jersey
Mitchell H. Cohen Building & U.S. Courthouse
4th & Cooper Streets Room 1050
Camden, New Jersey 08101

Regina M. Philipps, Esq. Timothy R. Bieg, Esq. Madden & Madden 108 Kings Highway East, Suite 200 Haddonfield, NJ 08033 Attorneys for Plaintiff

Defendant Solar Energy World, LLC, improperly pled as "Solar Energy World,"

("Defendant") hereby removes an action pending against it in the Superior Court of New Jersey,

Law Division, Camden County, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1332, 1441, and 1446 and 29 U.S.C. § 216(b). In support of removal, Defendant states:

- 1. On May 2, 2019, plaintiff Daniel Imbesi ("Plaintiff") commenced an action by filing a Complaint in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Camden County, entitled Daniel Imbesi v. Solar Energy World and John Does 1-10 (fictitious names), Docket No. CAM-L-001672-19, asserting the following claims: disability discrimination in violation of the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination ("NJLAD"), N.J.S.A. 10:5-1 et seq. (First Count); unpaid travel time compensation in violation of the federal Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA"), 29 U.S.C. § 207 et seq., (Second Count); unpaid overtime compensation in violation of the FLSA (Third Count); retaliatory discharge in violation of the FLSA (Fourth Count); unpaid regular compensation in violation of the New Jersey Wage and Hour Law ("NJWHL"), N.J.S.A. 34:11-56 et seq. (Fifth Count); unpaid overtime compensation in violation of the NJWHL (Sixth Count); retaliatory discharge in violation of the NJWHL (Seventh Count); and, retaliatory discharge in violation of the New Jersey Conscientious Employee Protection Act ("CEPA"), N.J.S.A. 34:19-1 et seq. (Eighth Count).
- 2. On May 2, 2019, a copy of the complaint, a summons, and a case information statement were served on Defendant. Copies of all of the papers served on Defendant are attached as Exhibit 1.
- 3. The papers attached as Exhibit 1 are copies of all process, pleadings, and orders served upon Defendant in this action.

- 4. This notice of removal is timely, as Defendant filed this notice of removal on the first business day following 30 days after the receipt by Defendant, through service or otherwise, of a copy of the initial pleading setting forth the claim for relief upon which this action is based.¹
- 5. The action in State Court is one over which this Court has original federal question jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and 29 U.S.C. § 216(b). It is removable to this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a) because Plaintiff asserts claims that arise under the laws of the United States. Specifically, the Second, Third, and Fourth Counts of the Complaint allege violations of the FLSA. The Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and 29 U.S.C. § 216(b). An action under the FLSA, which may be maintained in any federal or state court of competent jurisdiction, may be removed to federal court. Breuer v. Jim's Concrete of Brevard, Inc., 538 U.S. 691 (2003).
- 6. Additionally, the action in State Court is one over which this Court has original diversity jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a). It is removable to this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§1441(a) and 1441(b) because the matter in controversy exceeds \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs, and is between citizens of different states.
- 7. As set forth in the Complaint prepared by his counsel, Plaintiff was, at the commencement of this action, and is now, a resident of Camden, New Jersey. He is a domiciliary and citizen of the State of New Jersey.
- 8. Defendant was, at the commencement of this action, and is now, a limited liability company. As such, its citizenship for purposes of 28 U.S.C. § 1332 is determined by the citizenship of its members. Zambelli Fireworks Mfg. Co. v. Wood, 592 F.3d 412, 418 (3d Cir. Pa. 2010). Defendant has four (4) members, all of whom are individuals: Toptan Lala; Aloysius

¹ As set forth herein, Defendant received a copy of the initial pleading on May 2, 2019. Thirty days from that date was Saturday, June 1, 2019, and today is the first business day thereafter.

E. Gleeson; Geoffry Mirkin; and Ramadan Lala. Each of these individuals resides in Maryland and is a citizen of Maryland for purposes of diversity jurisdiction. Therefore, Defendant is a citizen of Maryland for purposes of diversity jurisdiction.

- 9. The fictitious defendants are disregarded for purposes of determining diversity of citizenship for removal. <u>See</u> 28 U.S.C. § 1441(b)(1).
- CEPA, does not set forth the specific amount that Plaintiff seeks to recover in this action,
 Plaintiff states in his Complaint that he is seeking compensatory damages, consequential
 damages, liquidated damages, punitive damages, interest, costs, attorney's fees, equitable back
 pay, equitable front pay, and such other relief as this Court may deem equitable and just. (See
 Exhibit 1, "WHEREFORE" clauses). Thus, in light of the foregoing, the amount in controversy
 exceeds \$75,000. See Raspa v. Home Depot et. al., 533 F. Supp. 2d 514 (D. N.J. 2007) (where
 no specific damage amount is pled in the Complaint, the Court must aggregate potential punitive
 damages with the compensatory damages, and consider attorneys' fees ("which can be
 significant"), to arrive at the amount in controversy requirement).
- 11. This Court has supplemental jurisdiction over the other claims in the Complaint pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367 because they arise from the same factual allegations and are so related as to form part of the same case or controversy. Accordingly, Defendant is entitled to remove this entire action.
- 12. The United States District Court for the District of New Jersey is the federal court for the district and division embracing Camden County, New Jersey.
 - 13. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a).
- 14. Defendant files this notice of removal without waiving any defenses to the claims asserted by Plaintiff or conceding that Plaintiff has pled claims upon which relief can be granted.

Case 1:19-cv-13366-RMB-JS Document 1-1 Filed 06/03/19 Page 10 of 31 PageID: 34

15. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441(d), written notice of the filing of this notice will be

given to the Plaintiff, and a true and accurate copy of this notice will be filed with the Clerk of

the Superior Court for New Jersey, Camden County, Law Division.

WHEREFORE, Defendant respectfully requests that the United States District Court for

the District of New Jersey accept this Notice of Removal and that it assume jurisdiction over this

action and issue such further orders and process as may be necessary to bring before it all parties

necessary for trial.

McCARTER & ENGLISH, LLP

Attorneys for Defendant Solar

Energy World, LLC

By: __/s/Adam N. Saravay___

Adam N. Saravay Katerina R. Mantell

Case 1:19-cv-13366-RMB-JS Document 1-1 Filed 06/03/19 Page 11 of 31 PageID: 35

EXHIBIT 1

05-02-19;11:33AM;From:Madden & Madden

May 2 2019 12:46pm

To: 18002382092 ;8564287335

2/ 18

TIMOTHY R. BIEG, ESQUIRE - ID NO: 024112005 REGINA M. PHILIPPS, ESQUIRE - ID NO: 023412011

MADDEN & MADDEN, P.A.

108 KINGS HIGHWAY EAST - SUITE 200

P.O. BOX 210

HADDONFIELD, NJ 08033

(856) 428-9520

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF DANIEL IMBEST

DANIEL IMBESI

Plaintiff,

VS.

SOLAR ENERGY WORLD and JOHN DOES 1-10 (fictitious names),

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CAMDEN COUNTY LAW DIVISION

DOCKET NO:CAM-L-1672-19

CIVIL ACTION

COMPLAINT & JURY DEMAND

Defendants.

FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO: SOLAR ENERGY WORLD

The plaintiff, named above, has filed a lawsuit against you in the Superior Court of New Jersey. The complaint attached to this summons states the basis for this lawsuit. If you dispute this complaint, you or your attorney must file a written answer or motion and proof of service with the deputy clerk of the Superior Court in the county listed above within 35 days from the date you receive this summons, not counting the date you received it. (The address of each deputy clerk of the Superior Court is provided.) If the complaint is one in forcelosure, then you must file your written answer or motion and proof of service with the Clerk of the Superior Court, Hughes Justice Complex, CN-971, Trenton, NJ 08625. A \$175.00 filling fee payable to the Clerk of the Superior Court and a completed Case Information Statement (available from the Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court) must accompany your answer or motion went it is filed. You must also send a copy of your answer or motion to plaintiff's attorney whose name and address appear above, or to plaintiff, if no attorney is named above. A telephone call will not protect your rights; you must file and serve a written answer or motion (with fee and completed Case information Statement) if you want the court to hear your defense.

If you do not file and serve a written answer or motion within 35 days, the court may enter a judgment against you for the relief plaintiff demands, plus interest and cost of suit. If judgment is entered against you, the Sheriff may seize your money, wages or property to pay all or part of the judgment.

If you cannot afford an attorney, you may call the Legal Services office in the county where you live. A list of these offices is provided. If you do not have an attorney and are not eligible for free legal assistance, you may obtain a referral to an attorney by calling one of the Lawyer Referral Services. A list of these numbers is also provided.

Dated: May 2, 2019

Ist Michelle M. Smith MICHELLE M. SMITH, Acting Clerk of the Superior Court

Name of Defendant to Be Served: Address of Defendant to Be Served:

Solar Energy World 100 Twin Bridge Road Pennsauken, NJ 08110

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:8564287335

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LEGAL SERVICE AND LAWYERS REFERRAL LIST

ATLANTIC COUNTY

Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court 1201 Bacharach Boulevard Atlantic City, New Jersey 08401 Lawyer Referral: 609-345-3444 Legal Services: 609-348-4200

BERGEN COUNTY

Deputy Clark of the Superior Court 10 Main Street Hackensack, New Jersey 07601 Lawyer Referral: 201-488-0044 Legal Services: 201-487-2166

BURLINGTON COUNTY

Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court 49 Rancocas Road Mt. Holly, New Jersey 08060 Lawyer Referral: 609-261-4862 Legal Services: 609-261-1088

CAMDEN COUNTY

Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court 101 South Fifth Street Camden, New Jersey 08103. Lawyer Referral: 856-964-4520 Legal Services: 856-964-2010

CAPE MAY COUNTY

Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court 9 North Main Street Cape May Ct Hs, New Jersey 08210 Lawyer Referral: 609-463-0313 Legal Services: 609-465-3001

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Deputy Clork of the Superior Court Broad & Fayette Streets Bridgeton, New Jersey 08302 Lawyer Referral: 856-692-6207 Legal Services: 856-451-0003

ESSEX COUNTY

Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court 50 West Market Street Newark, New Jersey 07102 Lawyer Referral: 973-622-6207 1.egal Services: 973-624-4500

GLOUCESTER COUNTY

Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court 1 North Broad Street, Ct. House Woodbury, New Jersey 08096 Lawyer Referral: 856-848-4589 Legal Services: 856-848-5360

HUDSON COUNTY

Deputy Clark of the Superior Court 583 Newark Avenue Jersey City, New Jersey 07306 Lawyer Referral: 201-798-2727 Legal Services: 201-792-6363

HUNTERDON COUNTY

Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court 65 Park Avenue Flemington, New Jersey 08822 Lawyer Referral: 908-735-2611 Legal Services: 908-782-7979

MERCER COUNTY

Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court 175 S. Broad St., 2nd Floor Trenton, New Jersey 08650 Lawyer Referral: 609-585-6200 Legal Services: 609-695-6249

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court 1 John F. Kennedy Square New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903 Lawyer Referral: 732-828-0053 Legal Services: 732-249-7600

MONMOUTH COUNTY

Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court 71 Monument Park Freehold, New Jersey 07728 Lawyer Referral: 732-431-5544 Legal Services: 732-866-0020

MORRIS COUNTY

Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court 30 Schuyler Place Morristown, New Jersey 07960 Lawyer Referral: 973-367-5882 Legal Services: 973-285-6911

OCEAN COUNTY

Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court 118 Washington Street Paterson, New Jersey 07505 Lawyer Referral: 732-240-3666 Legal Services: 732-341-2727

PASSAIC COUNTY

Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court 77 Hamilton Street Paterson, New Jersey 07505 Lawyer Referral: 973-278-9223 Legal Services: 973-345-7171

SALEM COUNTY

Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court 92 Market Street Salem, New Jersey 08079 Lawyer Referral: 856-935-5628 Legal Services: 856-451-0003

SOMERSET COUNTY

Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court 20 North Bridge Street Somerville, New Jersey 08876 Lawyer Referral: 908-685-2323 Legal Services: 908-231-0840

SUSSEX COUNTY

Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court 43-47 High Street Newton, New Jersey 07860 Lawyer Referral: 973-267-5882 Legal Services: 973-383-7400

UNION COUNTY

Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court 2 Broad Street Elizabeth, New Jersey 07207 Lawyer Referral: 908-353-4715 Legal Services: 908-354-4340

WARREN COUNTY

Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court 413 Second Street Belvidere, New Jersey 07823 Lawyer Service: 973-267-5882 Legal Services: 908-475-2010

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CAM-L-001672-19 05/02/2019 10:14:37 AM Pg 1 of 14 Trans ID: LCV2019771351

TIMOTHY R. BIEG, ESQUIRE - ID NO: 024112005 REGINA M. PHILIPPS, ESQUIRE - ID NO: 023412011 MADDEN & MADDEN, P.A. 108 KINGS HIGHWAY BAST - SUITE 200 P.O. BOX 210 HADDONFIELD, NJ 08033 (856) 428-9520

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF DANIEL IMBESI

DANIEL IMBESI

Plaintiff,

SOLAR ENERGY WORLD and JOHN DOES 1-10 (fictitious names),

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CAMDEN COUNTY LAW DIVISION

DOCKET NO:

CIVIL ACTION

COMPLAINT & JURY DEMAND

Defendants.

Plaintiff, Daniel Imbesi, residing at 244 South Burnt Mill Road, Voorhees, Camden County, New Jersey, by way of complaint against defendants, Solar Energy World and John Does 1-10, states as follows:

THE PARTIES

- Plaintiff, Daniel Imbest, is an individual residing at 244 South Burnt Mill Road. 1. Voorhees, Camden County, New Jersey, and at all relevant times, plaintiff was employed by defendant, Solar Energy World.
- Defendant, Solar Energy World, is a corporation maintaining a principal place of business at 100 Twin Bridge Road, Pennsauken, Camden County, New Jersey, and at all relevant times, was Plaintiff's employer.
- At all times mentioned herein, defendants, John Does I-10, are those fictitious names of individuals and/or entities whose true identities are unknown to plaintiff at this time

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and who are liable to plaintiff in whole or in part, directly or taugentially, for the damages sustained by plaintiff as described with more particularity herein.

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

- 4. Plaintiff, Daniel Imbesi ("Plaintiff"), is a male who suffers from Imitable Bowel
 Syndrome (IBS) and potential Celiac disease.
- 5. On or about November 5, 2018, Plaintiff became employed by defendant, Solar Energy World, as a solar panel installer.
- 6. At all times relevant to Plaintiff's employment, Defendant, Solar Energy World, was aware of Plaintiff's IBS and potential Celiac disease.
- 7. At all times relevant to Plaintiff's employment, Plaintiff was performing his job duties for defendant, Solar Energy World, at a level that met and/or exceeded his employer's legitimate expectations.
- 8. At all times relevant to Plaintiff's employment, defendant, Solar Energy World, failed to pay its employees, including but not limited to Plaintiff, for regular hours worked while traveling from the yard of defendant, Solar Energy World, to job sites.
- At all times relevant to Plaintiff's employment, defendant, Solar Energy World,
 failed to pay its employees, including but not limited to Plaintiff, for overtime worked.
- 10. At all times relevant to Plaintiff's employment, defendant, Solar Energy World, failed to accurately track the hours and wages of its employees, including but not limited to Plaintiff.
- On several occasions in December 2018 and January 2019, Plaintiff complained to his supervisor, Henry Diaz, regarding the aforesaid unlawful pay practices of defendant, Solar

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To:18002362092 ;8564287335

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Energy World,

- 12. On or about January 18, 2019, Plaintiff was working in unsafe and hazardous conditions, as mandated by defendant, Solar Energy World, on a roof covered in snow and ice, at which time Plaintiff fell and suffered significant injuries.
- 13. On or about January 23, 2019, Plaintiff was advised by his supervisor, Henry Diaz, to work once again in unsafe and hazardous conditions on a roof covered in snow and ice.
- 14. Plaintiff objected to the directive of his supervisor, Henry Diaz, and refused to participate in the unsafe and hazardous working conditions, which he reasonably believed to be in violation of Occupational Safety and Health Administration ("OSHA") regulations as well as clear mandates of public policy concerning safety.
- 15. On or about January 31, 2019, Plaintiff advised his supervisor, Henry Diaz, that he needed time off to go to the doctor due to stomach issues, which were related to Plaintiff's IBS and potential Celiac disease.
- 16. On or about February 1, 2019, in the absence of any prior warning, Plaintiff was terminated by defendant, Solar Energy World.
- 17. Plaintiff's termination constitutes a discriminatory discharge and/or unlawful retaliation in violation of New Jersey and/or federal law.
- 18. The actions of defendant, Solar Energy World, toward Plaintiff as aforesaid were willful and egregious, warranting punitive damages.
- 19. Plaintiff has suffered, and will continue to suffer, both economic and non-economic losses as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid unlawful actions of defendant, Solar Energy World.

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FIRST COUNT

Violation of the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination - Disability Discrimination

- 20. Plaintiff hereby repeats and reiterates the allegations of the foregoing paragraphs as if the same are set forth herein at length.
 - 21. Plaintiff suffers from IBS and potential Celiac disease.
- 22. At all relevant times, Plaintiff was performing his job duties at a level that met the legitimate expectations of defendant, Solar Energy World.
- 23. Immediately following plaintiff's January 31, 2019 notice to defendant, Solar Energy World, that he needed time off to go to the doctor due to stomach issues, which were related to Plaintiff's IBS and potential Celiac disease, plaintiff was terminated.
- 24. Plaintiff's termination was a discriminatory discharge, motivated by plaintiff's disability, in violation of the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination, N.J.S.A. 10:5-12 et seq.
- 25. Defendant, Solar Energy World, is liable for all damages and losses sustained by Pleintiff, which were a direct and proximate result of defendant, Solar Energy World's aforesaid unlawful actions.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff, Daniel Imbesi, hereby demands judgment against defendants, Solar Energy World and John Does 1-10, jointly, severally, and in the alternative, together with compensatory damages, consequential damages, liquidated damages, punitive damages, interest, costs, attorneys' fees, equitable back pay, equitable front pay and such other relief as this Court may deem equitable and just.

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SECOND COUNT Violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act - Travel Time Compensation

- 26. Plaintiff hereby repeats and reiterates the allegations of the foregoing paragraphs as if the same are set forth herein at length.
- 27. Pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. § 207, and its corresponding regulations, time spent by an employee in travel as part of his principal activity must be counted as hours worked, including but not limited to the travel time from an employer's office and/or designated meeting place to a work site.
- 28. At all times relevant to Plaintiff's claims, Plaintiff was an "employee" as defined by 29 U.S.C. § 203(e).
- 29. Defendant, Solar Energy World, is an "employer" as defined by 29 U.S.C. § 203(d).
- 30. At all times relevant to Plaintiff's employment, defendant, Solar Energy World, failed to pay Plaintiff the regular rate of pay for the time he worked traveling from the yard of defendant, Solar Energy World, where Plaintiff was required to report, to job sites.
- 31. At all times relevant to Plaintiff's employment, defendant, Solar Bnergy World, failed to accurately track the total number of hours Plaintiff worked each day and each week in violation of 29 U.S.C. § 211(c).
- 32. The failure of defendant, Solar Energy World, to pay Plaintiff his rightfully earned wages was willful.
 - 33. Defendant, Solar Energy World, is liable for all damages and losses sustained by

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Plaintiff, which were a direct and proximate result of defendant, Solar Energy World's aforesaid unlawful actions.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff, Daniel Imbesi, hereby demands judgment against defendants, Solar Energy World and John Does 1-10, jointly, severally, and in the alternative, together with compensatory damages, consequential damages, liquidated damages, punitive damages, interest, costs, attorneys' fees, equitable back pay, equitable front pay and such other relief as this Court may deem equitable and just.

THIRD COUNT Violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act - Overtime Compensation

- 34. Plaintiff hereby repeats and reiterates the allegations of the foregoing paragraphs as if the same are set forth herein at length.
- 35. Pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. § 207, and its corresponding regulations, an employee must be compensated for a work week longer than forty (40) hours at a rate not less than one and one-half times the regular rate at which the employee is employed.
- 36. At all times relevant to Plaintiff's claims, Plaintiff was an "employee" as defined by 29 U.S.C. § 203(e).
- 37. Defendant, Solar Energy World, is an "employer" as defined by 29 U.S.C. § 203(d).
- 38. At all times relevant to Plaintiff's employment, defendant, Solar Energy World, failed to pay Plaintiff at a rate of one and one-half times the regular rate of pay for the time he worked after the first forty (40) hours in any given week.

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At all times relevant to Plaintiff's employment, defendant, Solar Energy World, 39. failed to accurately track the total number of hours Plaintiff worked each day and each week and failed to accurately track Plaintiff's overtime in violation of 29 U.S.C. § 211(e).

- The failure of defendant, Solar Energy World, to pay Plaintiff his rightfully 40. carned overtime was willful.
- Defendant, Solar Energy World, is liable for all damages and losses sustained by Plaintiff, which were a direct and proximate result of defendant, Solar Energy World's aforesaid unlawful actions.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff, Daniel Imbesi, hereby demands judgment against defendants, Solar Energy World and John Does 1-10, jointly, severally, and in the alternative, together with compensatory damages, consequential damages, liquidated damages, punitive damages, interest, cosis, attorneys' fees, equitable back pay, equitable front pay and such other relief as this Court may deem equitable and just.

FOURTH COUNT Violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act - Retaliation

- Plaintiff hereby repeats and reiterates the allegations of the foregoing paragraphs 42. as if the same are set forth herein at length.
- Pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. § 207, and its corresponding 43, regulations, employers may not discharge or in any other manner discriminate against any employee because such employee has made a complaint relevant to the Act.
- At all times relevant to Plaintiff's claims, Plaintiff was an "employee" as defined by 29 U.S.C. § 203(c).

May 2 2019 12:48pm

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To:18002362092

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CAM-L-001672-19 05/02/2019 10:14:37 AM Pg 8 of 14 Trans ID: LGV2019771351

- 45. Defendant, Solar Energy World, is an "employer" as defined by 29 U.S.C. § 203(d).
- 46. On several occasions in December 2018 and January 2019, Plaintiff complained to defendant, Solar Energy World, regarding its failure to accurately compensate Plaintiff for time worked and failure to accurately track Plaintiff's hours and wages, as aforesaid.
- 47. Defendant, Solar Energy World, unlawfully terminated Plaintiff in retalisation for Plaintiff's complaints regarding his aforementioned rights under the Fair Labor Standards Act.
- 48. Defendant, Solar Energy World, is liable for all damages and losses sustained by Plaintiff, which were a direct and proximate result of defendant, Solar Energy World's aforesaid unlawful actions.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff, Daniel Imbesi, hereby demands judgment against defendants, Solar Energy World and John Does 1-10, jointly, severally, and in the alternative, together with compensatory damages, consequential damages, liquidated damages, punitive damages, interest, costs, attorneys' fees, equitable back pay, equitable front pay and such other relief as this Court may deem equitable and just.

Violation of the New Jersey Wage and Hour Law - Regular Compensation

- 49. Plaintiff hereby repeats and relterates the allegations of the foregoing paragraphs as if the same are set forth herein at length.
- 50. Pursuant to the New Jersey Wage and Hour Law, N.J.S.A. 34:11-56 et seq., and its corresponding regulations, employees must be paid for all hours worked; specifically, all of the time the employee is required to be at his place of work or on duty shall be counted as hours worked.

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- 51. At all times relevant to Plaintiff's claims, Plaintiff was an "employee" as defined by N.J.S.A. 34:11-56a1(h).
- 52. Defendant, Solar Energy World, is an "employer" as defined by N.J.S.A. 34:11-56a1(g).
- 53. At all times relevant to Plaintiff's employment, defendant, Solar Energy World, failed to pay Plaintiff the regular rate of pay for the time he was on duty traveling from the yard of defendant, Solar Energy World, where Plaintiff was required to report, to job sites.
- 54. At all times relevant to Plaintiff's employment, defendant, Solar Energy World, failed to accurately track the total number of hours Plaintiff worked each day and each week in violation of N.J.S.A. 34:11-56a20.
- 55. The failure of defendant, Solar Energy World, to pay Plaintiff his rightfully earned wages was willful.
- 56. Defendant, Solar Energy World, is liable for all damages and losses sustained by Plaintiff, which were a direct and proximate result of defendant, Solar Energy World's aforesaid unlawful actions.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff, Daniel Imbesi, hereby demands judgment against defendants, Solar Energy World and John Does 1-10, jointly, severally, and in the alternative, together with compensatory damages, consequential damages, liquidated damages, punitive damages, interest, costs, attorneys' fees, equitable back pay, equitable front pay and such other relief as this Court may deem equitable and just.

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SIXTH COUNT

Violation of the New Jersey Wage and Hour Law - Overtime Compensation

- 57. Plaintiff hereby repeats and relterates the allegations of the foregoing paragraphs as if the same are set forth herein at length.
- 58. Pursuant to the New Jersey Wage and Hour Law, N.J.S.A. 34:11-56 et seq., and its corresponding regulations, an employee must be paid one and a half times the employee's regular hourly wage for each hour of working time in excess of forty (40) hours in any given week.
- 59. At all times relevant to Plaintiff's claims, Plaintiff was an "employee" as defined by N.J.S.A. 34:11-56a1(h).
- 60. Defendant, Solar Energy World, is an "employer" as defined by N.I.S.A. 34:11-56a1(g).
- 61. At all times relevant to Plaintiff's employment, defendant, Solar Energy World, failed to pay Plaintiff at a rate of one and one-half times the regular rate of pay for the time he worked after the first forty (40) hours in any given week.
- 62. At all times relevant to Plaintiff's employment, defendant, Solar Energy World, failed to accurately track the total number of hours Plaintiff worked each day and each week and failed to accurately track Plaintiff's overtime in violation of N.J.S.A. 34:11-56a20.
- 63. The failure of defendant, Solar Energy World, to pay Plaintiff his rightfully earned overtime was willful.
- 64. Defendant, Solar Energy World, is liable for all damages and losses sustained by Plaintiff, which were a direct and proximate result of defendant, Solar Energy World's aforesaid unlawful actions.

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WHEREFORB, plaintiff, Daniel Imbesi, hereby demands judgment against defendants, Solar Energy World and John Does 1-10, jointly, severally, and in the alternative, together with compensatory damages, consequential damages, liquidated damages, punitive damages, interest, costs, attorneys' fees, equitable back pay, equitable front pay and such other relief as this Court may deem equitable and just.

SEVENTH COUNT Violation of the New Jersey Wage and Hour Law - Retaliation

- 65. Plaintiff hereby repeats and reiterates the allegations of the foregoing paragraphs as if the same are set forth herein at length.
- 66. Pursuant to the New Jersey Wage and Hour Law, N.J.S.A. 34:11-56 et seq., and its corresponding regulations, employers may not discharge, discipline or otherwise penalize an employee for reporting a violation or suspected violation of the Act.
- 67. At all times relevant to Plaintiff's claims, Plaintiff was an "employee" as defined by N.J.S.A. 34:11-56a1(h).
- 68. Defendant, Solar Energy World, is an "employer" as defined by N.J.S.A. 34:11-56a1(g).
- 69. On several occasions in December 2018 and January 2019, Plaintiff complained to defendant, Solar Energy World, regarding its failure to accurately compensate Plaintiff for time worked and failure to accurately track Plaintiff's hours and wages, as aforesaid.
- 70. Defendant, Solar Energy World, unlawfully terminated Plaintiff in retaliation for Plaintiff's complaints regarding his aforementioned rights under the New Jersey Wage and Hour Law.
 - 71. Defendant, Solar Energy World, is liable for all damages and losses sustained by

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Plaintiff, which were a direct and proximate result of defendant, Solar Energy World's aforesaid unlawful actions.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff, Daniel Imbesi, hereby demands judgment against defendants, Solar Energy World and John Does 1-10, jointly, severally, and in the alternative, together with compensatory damages, consequential damages, liquidated damages, punitive damages, interest, costs, attorneys' fees, equitable back pay, equitable front pay and such other relief as this Court may deem equitable and just.

FIGHTH COUNT Violation of the Conscientious Employee Protection Act - Retaliation

- 72. Plaintiff hereby repeats and reiterates the allegations of the foregoing paragraphs as if the same are set forth herein at length.
- 73. The Conscientious Employee Protection Act (CEPA), NJ.S.A. 34:19-1 et seq., prohibits employers from retaliating against an employee who objects to, or refuses to participate in any activity, policy or practice which the employee reasonably believes (1) is in violation of a law, or a rule or regulation promulgated pursuant to law; (2) is fraudulent or oriminal, or (3) is incompatible with a clear mandate of public policy concerning the public health, safety or welfare or protection of the environment.
- 74. At all times relevant to Plaintiff's claims, Plaintiff was an "employee" as defined by N.J.S.A. 34:19-2.
 - 75. Defendant, Solar Energy World, is an "employer" as defined by N.J.S.A. 34:19-
- 76. On or about January 23, 2019, Plaintiff objected to the directive of defendant, Solar Energy World, and refused to participate in the unsafe and hazardous working conditions,

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which he reasonably believed to be in violation of Occupational Safety and Health Administration ("OSHA") regulations as well as clear mandates of public policy concerning safety.

- 77. Defendant, Solar Energy World, unlawfully terminated Plaintiff in retaliation for Plaintiff's objection to and refusal to participate in the aforementioned unlawful, unsafe and hazardous working conditions in violation of the Conscientious Employee Protection Act (CEPA).
- 78. Defendant, Solar Energy World, is liable for all damages and losses sustained by Plaintiff, which were a direct and proximate result of defendant, Solar Energy World's aforesaid unlawful actions.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff, Daniel Imbesi, hereby demands judgment against defendants, Solar Energy World and John Does 1-10, jointly, severally, and in the alternative, together with compensatory damages, consequential damages, liquidated damages, punitive damages, interest, costs, attorneys' fees, equitable back pay, equitable front pay and such other relief as this Court may deem equitable and just.

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff, Daniel Imbesi, does hereby demand a trial all issues of this cause by jury.

MADDEN & MADDEN, P.A.

Ву:

TIMOTHY R. BEG ESQUIRE

DATED: April 30, 2019

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DESIGNATION OF TRIAL COUNSEL

Pursuant to Court Rule 4:25-4, Timothy R. Bieg, Esquire, hereby is designated as trial counsel in the above-captioned litigation for the firm of Madden & Madden, P.A., counsel for plaintiff, Daniel Imbesi.

By:

TIMOTHY R. BIEG, E QUIRE

DATED: April 30, 2019

CERTIFICATION

I, Timothy R. Bieg, Esquire, hereby certify to the best of my knowledge that there are no other actions pending in which this matter in controversy is the subject, nor are there any other actions or arbitration proceedings contemplated. Furthermore, pursuant to Rule 4:5-1, there are no other parties who should be joined in this action at this time.

DDEN, P.A.

By:

TIMOTHY R. BIEG. ESQUIRE

DATED: April 30, 2019

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Civil Case Information Statement

Case Details: CAMDEN; GIVII PartiDocket# L-001672-19.

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WORLO Case Initiation Date: 05/02/2019

Case Caption: IMBESI DANIEL VS SOLAR ENERGY

Attornoy Namo: TIMOTHY R BIEG

Firm Namo: MADDEN & MADDEN, PA

Address: 108 KINGS HIGHWAY EAST STE 200

HADDONFIELD NJ 08033

Phonet

Name of Party: PLAINTIFF: Imbest, Daniel

Name of Defendant's Primary Insurance Company

(If known); Unknown

Gase Typo: LAW AGAINST DISCRIMINATION (LAD) CASES

Document Type: Complaint with Jusy Demand

Jury Domand: YES - 12 JURORS

Hurricano Sandy rolated? NO

la this a professional malpractico case? NO

Related cases pending: NO

If yos, list docket numbers:

Do you anticipate adding any parties (arising out of same

transaction or occurrence)? NO

THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ON THIS FORM CANNOT BE INTRODUCED INTO EVIDENCES

GASE CHARACTERISTICS FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING IF CASE IS APPROPRIATE FOR MEDIATION

Do parties have a current, past, or recurrent relationship? YES

If yes, is that relationship: Employer/Employee

Does the statute governing this case provide for payment of fees by the losing party? YES

Use this space to alert the court to any special case characteristics that may warrant individual management or accelerated disposition:

Do you or your client need any disability accommodations? NO If yes, please identify the requested accommodation:

Will an interpreter be needed? NO If yes, for what language:

Please check off each applicable category: Pulative Class Action? NO

Title 597 NO

I certify that confidential personal identifiers have been redacted from documents now submitted to the court, and will be redacted from all documents submitted in the future in accordance with Rule 1:38-7(b)

05/02/2019 Dated /s/ TIMOTHY R BIEG Signed

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Katerina R. Mantell, of full age, hereby certifies as follows:

Today I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing NOTICE OF REMOVAL to be sent by overnight mail and by operation of the Court's electronic filing system to counsel for Plaintiff:

> Regina M. Philipps, Esq. Timothy R. Bieg, Esq. Madden & Madden 108 Kings Highway East, Suite 200 Haddonfield, NJ 08033

I certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

By: /s/ Katerina R. Mantell

Adam N. Saravay Katerina R. Mantell **McCARTER & ENGLISH, LLP**

Four Gateway Center 100 Mulberry Street P.O. Box 652 Newark, NJ 07101-0652

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Katerina R. Mantell, of full age, hereby certifies as follows:

Today I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing NOTICE TO SUPERIOR COURT OF FILING A NOTICE OF REMOVAL to be sent by overnight mail and by operation of the Court's electronic filing system to counsel for Plaintiff:

Regina M. Philipps, Esq. Timothy R. Bieg, Esq. Madden & Madden 108 Kings Highway East, Suite 200 Haddonfield, NJ 08033

I certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

By: <u>/s/Katerina R. Mantell</u>

Katerina R. Mantell

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Katerina R. Mantell, of full age, hereby certifies as follows:

Today I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing NOTICE OF COMPLIANCE to be sent by overnight mail and by operation of the Court's electronic filing system to counsel for Plaintiff:

Regina M. Philipps, Esq. Timothy R. Bieg, Esq. Madden & Madden 108 Kings Highway East, Suite 200 Haddonfield, NJ 08033

I certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

By: /s/Katerina R. Mantell
Adam N. Saravay
Katerina R. Mantell
McCARTER & ENGLISH, LLP
Four Gateway Center
100 Mulberry Street

P.O. Box 652 Newark, NJ 07101-0652